

27 February 2008

Ref. OEWG 6/Dec. OEWG-VI/27/COP 9/NS

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Secretariat of the Basel Convention would like to refer to Decision OEWG-VI/287 on the draft work programme for the Open-ended Working Group for 2009–2010 adopted at the sixth session of the Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal held in Geneva from 3-7 September 2007 (Decision OEWG-VI/27 is enclosed).

According to this decision, the Open-ended Working Group requested the Secretariat to prepare a draft work programme of the Working Group for 2009–2010 for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting and to circulate this draft work programme for comments by Parties and others four months prior to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Please find attached the draft work programme of the Working Group for 2009–2010.

The Secretariat would be very grateful if you could submit your comments on this draft work programme to the Secretariat of the Basel Convention by e-mail to: [Nelson.Sabogal@unep.ch](mailto:Nelson.Sabogal@unep.ch) or by fax: +41 22 797 34 54 at your earliest convenience.

For further information, please contact Mr. Nelson Sabogal, Tel. +41 22 917 8212.

Yours sincerely,



**Katharina Kummer Peiry**  
Executive Secretary

To: Focal Points of Parties and Signatories to the Basel Convention  
cc: Permanent Missions to the United Nations in Geneva

**Sixth Session of the Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, Geneva, 3–7 September 2007**

**OEWG-VI/27: Work programme of the Open-ended Working Group**

The Open-ended Working Group

1. *Requests* the Secretariat to prepare a draft work programme for the Open-ended Working Group for 2009–2010, taking into account discussions at the sixth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group and subsequent activities;
2. *Also requests* the Secretariat to circulate the draft work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for 2009–2010 for comments by Parties and others four months prior to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
3. *Further requests* the Secretariat to prepare draft decisions on relevant matters and transmit them to the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting for consideration and possible adoption.

## **ADVANCE UNEDITED**

28 February 2008

**Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention  
on the Control of Transboundary Movements of  
Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal**  
Ninth meeting  
23-27 June 2008

### **Draft work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for 2009–2010**

#### **Note by the Secretariat**

#### **I. Background**

1. By its decision VI/27, the sixth session of the Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal requested the Secretariat to prepare a draft work programme of the Working Group for 2009–2010 for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting.

#### **II. Implementation**

2. The annex to the present note contains the draft work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for 2009–2010, prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with the above-mentioned request.

#### **III. Proposed action**

3. The Conference may wish to consider adopting the work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for 2009–2010, as reviewed or amended by the Conference at its ninth meeting, by adopting a decision along the following lines:

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Adopts* the work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for 2009–2010 contained in the annex to the present decision.

## Annex

### Draft work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for 2009–2010

<b>I. Strategic Plan for the Implementation of the Basel Convention (to 2010)</b>			
<b>Topics</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting</b>	<b>Priority</b>
A. Strategic Plan focus areas	1. Provide guidance to the Secretariat and to the Basel Convention regional centres on efforts to assist Parties in implementing the Strategic Plan focus areas. 2. Provide guidance to the Secretariat in the review on the progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan.	IX/..	High
B. Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres	1. Provide guidance to the Secretariat and to the centres to enhance its combined effectiveness and capacity. 2. Review the operation of the centres to strengthen them.	IX/..	High
C. Basel Convention Partnership Programme	1. Review the work undertaken by the Secretariat and by the Basel Convention regional centres to implement the relevant parts of the work programme of the Basel Convention Partnership Programme for 2009–2010. 2. Provide guidance on the implementation of the recommendations by the Conference of the Parties on the partnership programme.	IX/..	High

<b>II. Scientific and technical matters</b>			
<b>Topics</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting</b>	<b>Priority</b>
A. Technical guidelines on environmentally sound management	1. Review work and complete the preparation of technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of e-waste.	IX/..	High
	2. Review and update the technical guidelines on persistent organic pollutants (POPs).	IX/..	High
	3. Review work and complete the preparation of technical guidelines for the environmentally sound management of mercury wastes and used tyres.	IX/..	High
	4. Review selected technical guidelines and initiate updating as necessary, e.g. on incineration on land (D10), specially engineered landfills (D5), and wastes collected from households (Y46).	IX/..	Medium
	5. Assess implementation of existing technical guidelines (practical difficulties and obstacles).	IX/..	Medium
B. Classification and hazard characterization of wastes	1. Consider and review any applications for the adjustment (removal or addition) of wastes in Annexes VIII and IX and report on the matter, through the Secretariat, to the Conference of the Parties. 2. Consider the amendment of entries relating to POPs. 3. Carry out a technical review of the wording of entries in the different language versions of Annexes VIII and IX.	IX/..	High
	4. Review issues concerning the identification of wastes in the World Customs Organization Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System and related matters.	IX/..	Medium

	5. Review issues relating to national classification and control procedures for wastes.	IX/..	Medium
	6. Harmonization and coordination as it relates to the work with UNSCE/GHS.	IX/..	Medium
	7. Complete the work on hazard characteristic H10 and H11	IX/..	Low

<b>III. Legal and compliance</b>			
<b>Topics</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting</b>	<b>Priority</b>
A. Review issues of interpretation of the Convention.	Consider issues of interpretation of the Convention, as mandated by the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and prepare recommendations for consideration by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties	IX/..	High
B. Environmentally sound dismantling and abandonment of ships	Assess whether the International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, to be adopted by the International Maritime Organization, establishes an equivalent level of control to the Basel Convention and, as appropriate, clarify the scope of application of the Basel Convention in relation to ship dismantling	IX/..	High
C. Cooperation between the Basel Convention and the International Maritime Organization	Consider the respective competencies of the Basel Convention and the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships 1973 as modified by the Protocol of 1978 in respect of hazardous wastes and other wastes, taking into account deliberations on related issues in the Marine Environment Protection Committee of the International Maritime Organization, and keep the Marine Environment Protection Committee informed of any developments on this matter in the Basel Convention	IX/..	High
D. Implementation of decision V/32 on enlargement of the scope of the Trust Fund to Assist Developing and Other Countries in Need of Assistance in the Implementation of the Basel Convention	Review the implementation of decision V/32 and provide guidance to the Secretariat.	IX/..	Medium
E. Enforcement of the Convention and combating illegal traffic.	Provide guidance to the Secretariat on activities it is directed to undertake by the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to assist Parties to enforce the Convention, and to combat illegal traffic, including through the review of draft guidance documents being developed for this purpose related to, among other things, national legislation and other measures to promote enforcement.	IX/..	Medium

<b>IV. Resource mobilization and sustainable financing</b>			
<b>Topics</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting</b>	<b>Priority</b>
Resource mobilization and Sustainable financing	Monitor implementation of the relevant decision of the Conference of the Parties.	IX/..	High

<b>V. International cooperation and coordination</b>			
<b>Topics</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting</b>	<b>Priority</b>
A. Cooperation and coordination between the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions	Monitor, review and provide guidance to the Secretariat on the implementation of decisions adopted by the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties concerning cooperation between the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Convention, taking into account relevant decisions adopted by the meetings of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions	IX/..	High
B. International cooperation and coordination	1. Provide guidance, as appropriate, to the Secretariat on means to enhance cooperation and coordination with international and regional organizations and multilateral environmental agreements in areas of relevance to the Basel Convention. 2. Keep under review the application for observer status in the Committee of Trade and Environment of the World Trade Organization and provide guidance thereon, as appropriate.	IX/..	Medium

<b>VI. Financial matters</b>			
<b>Topics</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting</b>	<b>Priority</b>
Programme budget and other financial matters	Provide guidance on and review the preparation of the programme budget for 2011-2012 and other related financial matters.	IX/..	High

<b>VII. Decisions of the Conference of the Parties</b>			
<b>Topics</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting</b>	<b>Priority</b>
Draft decisions of the Conference of the Parties	Review and submit draft decisions for consideration and possible adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting.	IX/..	High